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518-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Bernard DABEZIES et al

PCT/FR99/01172, filed
May 17, 1999

Appln. No. (Not Yet Known)

Filed: January 4, 2000

For: METHOD OF LASER WELDING OVERLAPPING SHEETS AND CORRESPONDING
RAILWAY VEHICLE BODY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-identified Application, please make the
following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 5, line 1, delete "any one of Claims 1 to 4", and insert --Claim 1--.

Claim 6, line 7, before "method", delete "a", and insert --the--;

line 8, delete "any one of Claims 1 to 4", and insert --Claim 1--.

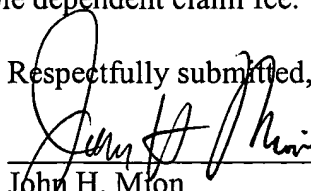
Claim 7, line 5, before "method", delete "a", and insert --the--.

REMARKS

The above amendments have been made to eliminate the multiple dependency of claims
5, 6 and 7, thereby eliminating the need for a multiple dependent claim fee.

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January 4, 2000

Respectfully submitted,


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